

10/563131

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02887.0372

IA20123010010 03 JAN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Tsuyoshi ARUGA et al.

Application No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **January 3, 2006**

National Stage of International Application
No. **PCT/JP2004/009160** under 35 U.S.C.
371, for **JOINING METHOD AND JOINING
DEVICE**

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) **Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned**
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) **Examiner: Not Yet Assigned**
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-257238 - An English language abstract of this document is enclosed.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-318220 - An English language abstract of this document is enclosed.

Also, in lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
Filing Date	January 3, 2006
First Named Inventor	Tsuyoshi ARUGA et al.
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	02887.0372

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2001-257238	09-21-2001	TERADA et al.		ABSTRACT
		JP 2003-318220	11-07-2003	YAMAUCHI et al.		ABSTRACT

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.